

Corrective Action Recommendations for Total and/or Fecal Coliform Maximum Contaminant Level Exceedance

In order to provide for immediate public health protection, you are recommended to:

1. Conduct visual inspections of the system's source(s), source water protection area, storage facilities, all chemical addition systems, and distribution piping to determine potential sources of contamination. In addition, assess if your water system is being operated in accordance with your State approved Operation and Maintenance Manual (note TNC's are not required but recommended to have an O&M Manual). Per Vermont Water Supply Rule, Subchapter 21-12 the certified operator is required to conduct a visual inspection of the water system following a bacteriological contamination incident. For free technical assistance in conducting a contamination investigation contact the Vermont Rural Water Association at (800) 556-3792.
2. Repair as appropriate the public water system and eliminate the source(s) of contamination (this may require a permit from the appropriate regulatory authority). Notify the Division in writing of the repairs made or if the source(s) of contamination are unknown or not within your control;
3. Disinfect your water (for systems with the ability to continuously chlorinate):
 - a.) Turn on your disinfection unit (e.g., chlorinator) immediately;
 - b.) Run it for at least 60 consecutive days;
 - c.) Measure the daily free chlorine residual at the point of entry (or nearest point) into the distribution system and record on your monthly report form;
 - d.) Measure free chlorine residual at the location(s) where bacteriological samples are collected from the distribution system and report on the laboratory field form. If free chlorine residual is non-detectable, measure and report total chlorine concentrations. All bacteriological samples must be collected in accordance with your State approved bacteriological sampling plan.
4. Manually chlorinate and flush your water system (for systems without chlorination facilities).
 - a.) Contact the Division prior to manually disinfecting your water system for additional requirements.
 - b.) Guidelines on manually chlorinating your water system are available from the Division or the Vermont Rural Water Association. On-site technical assistance for the manual chlorination of your drinking water system is also available by contacting the Vermont Rural Water Association.
5. Take any additional bacteriological samples required by the Division.
6. Contact Eamon Twohig of the Division at (802) 585-4902 for permission to have the boil water notice lifted (if issued), and the procedure on how to do so.

If you do not have a disinfection unit and plan to install one, you will need to obtain a construction permit from the Division prior to installation. You can contact our office to obtain a copy of a permit application. You may need assistance from an engineer for the design and installation of the unit.

Be advised that violations of the Maximum Contaminant Level for coliform bacteria or failure to comply with public notification requirements may result in civil penalties or other formal enforcement actions.

This guidance sheet and related environmental information are available electronically via the internet. For information visit us through the Vermont Homepage at <http://www.vermont.gov> or visit directly at www.drinkingwatervt.us

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